

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device for mixing air and water in a water purifier, wherein:

wherein the mixing device (1) comprises a water inlet pipe (2) and an air inlet pipe (3),

wherein the air inlet pipe (3) extends coaxially within the water inlet pipe (2) and defines therewith an annular gap (4) for providing an annular water jet,

wherein, downstream of the annular gap (4) there is provided a mixing member (6) for mixing water and air, and

wherein the mixing member (6) includes a water flow disturbing device (7) which is provided to be hit by the annular water jet,

~~characterized in~~

that at least those parts (2a) of the water inlet pipe (2) and/or those parts (3a) of the air inlet pipe (3) which define the annular gap (4), consist of plastic material, and

that the water flow disturbing device (7) includes at least one helical means (8) which extends along the inner side of the mixing member (6) around through-flow portions (6a) thereof within said helical means (8) such that helical movements are imparted to the annular jet of water when it flows downwards through said through-flow portions (6a).

**Claim 2 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 1,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the plastic material which said  
parts (2a and/or 3a) of the water inlet pipe (2) and/or the air inlet pipe (3) consist of,  
is olefine polymer.

**Claim 3 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 2,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ said olefine polymer is polyethylene.

**Claim 4 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding~~  
claim, ~~characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the helical means (8) has the  
shape of a wire.

**Claim 5 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 4,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the helical means (8) is a metal wire.

**Claim 6 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding~~  
claim, ~~characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the helical means (8) is located  
on the inner side of a tube (9) forming part of the mixing member (6).

**Claim 7 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 6,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the helical means (8) extends along the entire  
or at least the major part of the mixing member (6).

**Claim 8 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein:~~

~~that the helical means (8) consists of a helical spring having a diameter which is greater than the inner diameter of the mixing member (6),~~

~~that the spring can be screwed together for reducing its diameter such that it can be inserted into the mixing member (6), and~~

~~that the helical spring, by being released after insertion into the mixing member (6), can be brought to expand until it with pressure engages the inner side of the mixing member (6).~~

**Claim 9 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the helical spring can be removed or withdrawn from the mixing member (6) by screwing together said spring for reducing its diameter.

**Claim 10 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the through-flow portion (6a) is provided with no parts or members within the helical means (8).

**Claim 11 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ the mixing member (6) includes a tube (9) which interiorly is of uniform thickness.

**Claim 12 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to claim 11,  
~~characterized in that wherein~~ the tube (9) consists of metal material,  
preferably stainless metal material.

**Claim 13 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding~~  
~~claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ plastic parts (2a) of the water  
inlet pipe (2) and metal parts of the mixing member (6) are interconnected by means  
of a pipe coupling (10) of metal material.

**Claim 14 (Currently Amended):** Mixing device according to ~~any preceding~~  
~~claim, characterized in that claim 1, wherein~~ a flow control means (5) is  
provided for controlling the flow through the annular gap (4).